

# ST. PATRICK CATHOLIC HIGH SCHOOL

## DAILY ANNOUNCEMENTS Wednesday, March 21, 2018

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### Today's Prayer and Reflection:

*The truth will set you free. (John 8:32)*

Shin Dong-hyuk was a prisoner in a North Korean prison camp for twenty-three years before he escaped. But for most of that time, he thought that his life was normal. You see, he was born there. It took him so long to entertain the thought of escaping because he thought that everyone lived in a camp like his. During his incarceration, if you had asked him the meaning of the word "freedom," he wouldn't have known how to answer.

You can hear similarities to Shin's story in what some Jewish leaders say to Jesus in today's Gospel: "We are descendants of Abraham and have never been enslaved to anyone" (John 8:33). Jesus is trying to tell them that they really are slaves—to sin. But they can't understand what he means. They are observing the Law to the best of their ability; what could possibly be wrong with that? Nothing at all. But Jesus wanted to give them something more.

Jesus wanted his listeners to remain free to obey the Law, but he also wanted them to know the freedom of the Holy

Spirit. He wanted them to be free to hear the Spirit speak words of wisdom, love, and guidance; to be freed from self-centered concerns and anxieties; to be free to do the very things that Jesus was doing. In other words, he wanted to give them a freedom based on the power of God living and active in their lives.

As Easter draws near, consider what freedom looks like for you. You may find that, like Shin Dong-hyuk, you have been imprisoned for quite a while without even knowing it. God wants to give you the freedom to become the person you want to be—more patient, more considerate, and more open to the Holy Spirit. He wants to set you free from long-standing resentments and hurts. And he does this so that you can go out and build the kingdom of God with confidence and grace.

Let these truths settle deep into your heart. Then step into the freedom God has prepared for you this Lent.

*"Lord, send me your light and your grace—the light to see where I need to change and the grace to make those changes."*

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### Today's Announcements:

- ★ We wish our sophomores all the best on their spiritual retreat today.
- ★ We will have Stations of the Cross tomorrow morning at 9:40. Students, you will not need to wear blazers and ties tomorrow.
- ★ This week is the final week for Pennies for Patients, so please be generous and donate to this wonderful cause! Student Council will collect teachers' boxes on Friday afternoon for final counting. Remember, the class with the most money will receive a pasta party from Olive Garden during their lunch. All teachers whose classes raise over

\$300 will receive a deep-clean of their classrooms. Last year we raised over \$3000; let's try to beat it!

- ★ NJHS will have their last service project of the year this Saturday at the Biloxi VA. Officers should meet at 9:30 and members should meet at 9:45. The event will be over around 11 and students should be picked up by 11:15. Members, please bring your boiled eggs Saturday morning to the VA. Please see Mrs. Williams if you have any questions.
- ★ Congratulations to Robby Waltz for shooting the lowest score for St. Patrick and a nod to Carson Bishop who broke a personal tournament record at yesterday's Admiral Invitational in Gulfport. Cole Reeves, Keegan Cuevas, and Austin Dossett also chipped in for the Fighting Irish effort.
- ★ Calling all writers, photographers and artists, the deadline for this month's issue of *Aisling* is this Friday. The theme is Spirit. Please visit the school's website to submit your work, or see one of the *Aisling* staff members or Mr. Hewes.
- ★ Interact Club will be filling eggs after school today in Ms. Moon's room. Juniors may pick up their RYLA scholarship forms from Mrs. Lawson.
- ★ The tennis team defeated Pass Christian 5-2. Jackson Ward won in singles. Both men's doubles teams, which included Anthony Schlogel, Alexander Gioe, Logan Ward, and Teal Salloum won their courts. Molly Bowen and Grace Schlogel won in women's doubles. Chloe Rizk and George Weatherly won in mixed doubles. Jude Letenoff and Cade Meyers also won in doubles. All the players put in a great performance. The team will play their next match at Ocean Springs on Thursday.
- ★ There will be no chess club this Thursday.
- ★ Congratulations to the Fighting Irish Baseball team on their 9-4 victory over Sacred Heart last night.